

regard to the leading forms of permanent disability, is that known as the Vienna Schedule, which has served as a basis for most other similar tables. It must be noted that in certain points minor differences exist among the standard authorities, and that the values given are only intended to be approximative and to serve as a point of departure in deciding individual cases. It must be remembered that the Vienna schedule is expressed, so to speak, in terms of unskilled workman. From this relatively simple problem, the variations called for by special forms of occupation can be determined. From the point of view of disability workmen are divided into four classes :—

- (1) The unskilled laborer.
- (2) The laborer whose work requires skill as well as strength, such as the bricklayer, mason, etc.
- (3) The handicraftsman : as carpenter, joiner.
- (4) The higher grades of skill, as mechanics.

It will be seen that the same injury might produce different results in each class. For instance, anything which impairs the finer movements of the fingers or wrists would represent a great loss to an engraver, whereas a laborer would be relatively little impeded by a partially anchylosed wrist, which was not painful and permitted of heavy work being done. On the other hand, a sensitive scar of the hand, which would incapacitate the laborer completely, might not interfere at all with the finer movements of the engraver. Accidents lessening the flexibility and free motion of the feet without impairing their firmness as a base of support and rendering them painful give relatively slight impairment to laboring men as compared with that caused in the case of roofers or sailors, etc. Injuries to the lower extremities cause much less inconvenience to those whose work can be done in a sitting posture than to others. Certain callings require unusual acuteness of sight and hearing as compared with others.

The following factors also come into account :—Can the condition be rectified by mechanical appliances if it cannot be improved by treatment? Is it likely to get better or worse; is it temporary or permanent? Can the person without difficulty adapt himself to another occupation? Does the condition, besides incapacitating him from work, cause him an actual increase of expense for nursing, attendance, etc.? Are his chances of securing other employment diminished? Does he suffer from pain? Has the injury made him liable to any special disease? Is the condition in part due to disease existing before the accident, or to some complication set up or predisposed to by it? Can operative treatment be undertaken? (The patient is under no obligation to submit himself to any operation which may be dangerous, all involving general anaesthesia coming under this category.) Was the